#### BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS STATE OF CALIFORNIA

In the Matter of the Accusation Against:			
ALAN WILLIAM PLYMALE 2483 Falcon Drive Paso Robles, CA 93446	Case No. 2007-27		
Registered Nurse License No. 544635			
Respondent			
DECISION AND ORDER			
The attached Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby adopted by the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs, as it's Decision in the above entitled matter.			
This Decision shall become effective on	anuary 17, 2008 .		
IT IS SO ORDERED <u>December 18, 2007</u> .			
	La Francisco W Tate		
,	President Board of Registered Nursing Department of Consumer Affairs State of California		

1	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General		
2	of the State of California GLORIA A. BARRIOS,		
3	Supervising Deputy Attorney General TERRENCE M. MASON, State Bar No. 158935		
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7	Attorneys for Complainant		
8	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING		
9	DEPARTMENT OF CON	SUMER AFFAIRS	
10	STATE OF CAL	IFORNIA	
11	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:	Case No. 2007-27	
12	ALAN WILLIAM PLYMALE 2488 Falcon Drive	OAH No. L2007 020747	
13	Paso Robles, CA 93446	STIPULATED SETTLEMENT AND DISCIPLINARY ORDER	
14	Registered Nurse License No. 544635	DISCH LINARY ORDER	
15	Respondent.		
16			
17	IT IS HEREBY STIPULATED AND AGREED by and between the parties to the		
18	above-entitled proceedings that the following matters are true:		
19	PARTIES PARTIES		
20	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H, R.N	("Complainant") is the Executive Officer of	
21	the Board of Registered Nursing. She brought this action solely in her official capacity and is		
22	represented in this matter by Edmund G. Brown Jr., Attorney General of the State of California,		
23	by Terrence M. Mason, Deputy Attorney General.		
24	2. Alan William Plymale ("Resp	ondent") is representing himself in this	
25	proceeding and has chosen not to exercise his right to	o be represented by counsel.	
26	3. On or about June 30, 1998, the	e Board of Registered Nursing issued	
27	Registered Nurse License No. 544635 to Alan William Plymale. The License will expire on		
28	November 30, 2007, unless renewed.		

#### JURISDICTION

4. Accusation No. 2007-27 was filed before the Board of Registered Nursing, Department of Consumer Affairs ("Board"), and is currently pending against Respondent. The Accusation and all other statutorily required documents were properly served on Respondent on August 14, 2006. Respondent timely filed his Notice of Defense contesting the Accusation. A copy of Accusation No. 2007-27 is attached as Exhibit A and incorporated herein by reference.

#### **ADVISEMENT AND WAIVERS**

- 5. Respondent has carefully read, and understands the charges and allegations in Accusation No. 2007-27. Respondent has also carefully read, and fully understands the effects of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order.
- 6. Respondent is fully aware of his legal rights in this matter, including the right to a hearing on the charges and allegations in the Accusation; the right to be represented by counsel at his own expense; the right to confront and cross-examine the witnesses against him; the right to present evidence and to testify on his own behalf; the right to the issuance of subpoenas to compel the attendance of witnesses and the production of documents; the right to reconsideration and court review of an adverse decision; and all other rights accorded by the California Administrative Procedure Act and other applicable laws.
- 7. Respondent voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently waives and gives up each and every right set forth above.

#### **CULPABILITY**

- 8. Respondent admits the truth of each and every charge and allegation in Accusation No. 2007-27.
- 9. Respondent agrees that his Registered Nurse License is subject to discipline and he agrees to be bound by the Board of Registered Nursing's imposition of discipline as set forth in the Disciplinary Order below.

#### RESERVATION

10. The admissions made by Respondent herein are only for the purposes of this proceeding, or any other proceedings in which the Board of Registered Nursing or other

professional licensing agency is involved, and shall not be admissible in any other criminal or civil proceeding.

#### **CONTINGENCY**

Nursing. Respondent understands and agrees that counsel for Complainant and the staff of the Board of Registered Nursing may communicate directly with the Board regarding this stipulation and settlement, without notice to or participation by Respondent. By signing the stipulation, Respondent understands and agrees that he may not withdraw his agreement or seek to rescind the stipulation prior to the time the Board considers and acts upon it. If the Board fails to adopt this stipulation as its Decision and Order, the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order shall be of no force or effect, except for this paragraph, it shall be inadmissible in any legal action between the parties, and the Board shall not be disqualified from further action by having considered this matter.

#### OTHER MATTERS

12. The parties understand and agree that facsimile copies of this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order, including facsimile signatures thereto, shall have the same force and effect as the originals.

#### DISCIPLINARY ORDER

In consideration of the foregoing admissions and stipulations, the parties agree that the Board may, without further notice or formal proceeding, issue and enter the following Disciplinary Order:

IT IS HEREBY ORDERED that Registered Nurse License No. 544635 issued to Respondent Alan William Plymale is revoked. However, the revocation is stayed and Respondent is placed on probation for four (4) years on the following terms and conditions.

Severability Clause. Each condition of probation contained herein is a separate and distinct condition. If any condition of this Order, or any application thereof, is declared unenforceable in whole, in part, or to any extent, the remainder of this Order, and all other applications thereof, shall not be affected. Each condition of this Order shall separately be valid

and enforceable to the fullest extent permitted by law.

1. **Actual Suspension of License.** Respondent is suspended from the practice of registered nursing for twelve (12) months (period of time not to exceed one year) beginning the effective date of this Decision.

During the suspension period, all probation conditions are in full force and effect except those relating to actual nursing practice. Further, the twelve (12) month period of suspension will not be considered as "probationary time" should the Respondent apply for any reduction of the period of probation.

2. **Obey All Laws.** Respondent shall obey all federal, state and local laws. A full and detailed account of any and all violations of law shall be reported by Respondent to the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours of occurrence. To permit monitoring of compliance with this condition, Respondent shall submit completed fingerprint forms and fingerprint fees within 45 days of the effective date of the decision, unless previously submitted as part of the licensure application process.

Criminal Court Orders: If Respondent is under criminal court orders, including probation or parole, and the order is violated, this shall be deemed a violation of these probation conditions, and may result in the filing of an accusation and/or petition to revoke probation.

3. Comply with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall fully comply with the conditions of the Probation Program established by the Board and cooperate with representatives of the Board in its monitoring and investigation of the Respondent's compliance with the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall inform the Board in writing within no more than 15 days of any address change and shall at all times maintain an active, current license status with the Board, including during any period of suspension.

Upon successful completion of probation, Respondent's license shall be fully restored.

4. **Report in Person.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall appear in person at interviews/meetings as directed by the Board or its designated representatives.

5. Residency, Practice, or Licensure Outside of State. Periods of residency or practice as a registered nurse outside of California shall not apply toward a reduction of this probation time period. Respondent's probation is tolled, if and when he resides outside of California. Respondent must provide written notice to the Board within 15 days of any change of residency or practice outside the state, and within 30 days prior to re-establishing residency or returning to practice in this state.

Respondent shall provide a list of all states and territories where he has ever been licensed as a registered nurse, vocational nurse, or practical nurse. Respondent shall further provide information regarding the status of each license and any changes in such license status during the term of probation. Respondent shall inform the Board if he applies for or obtains a new nursing license during the term of probation.

6. Submit Written Reports. Respondent, during the period of probation, shall submit or cause to be submitted such written reports/declarations and verification of actions under penalty of perjury, as required by the Board. These reports/declarations shall contain statements relative to Respondent's compliance with all the conditions of the Board's Probation Program. Respondent shall immediately execute all release of information forms as may be required by the Board or its representatives.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to the nursing regulatory agency in every state and territory in which he has a registered nurse license.

7. **Function as a Registered Nurse.** Respondent, during the period of probation, shall engage in the practice of registered nursing in California for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

For purposes of compliance with the section, "engage in the practice of registered nursing" may include, when approved by the Board, volunteer work as a registered nurse, or work in any non-direct patient care position that requires licensure as a registered nurse.

The Board may require that advanced practice nurses engage in advanced practice nursing for a minimum of 24 hours per week for 6 consecutive months or as determined by the Board.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation shall apply.

8. Employment Approval and Reporting Requirements. Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before commencing or continuing any employment, paid or voluntary, as a registered nurse. Respondent shall cause to be submitted to the Board all performance evaluations and other employment related reports as a registered nurse upon request of the Board.

Respondent shall provide a copy of this Decision to his employer and immediate supervisors prior to commencement of any nursing or other health care related employment.

In addition to the above, Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after he obtains any nursing or other health care related employment. Respondent shall notify the Board in writing within seventy-two (72) hours after he is terminated or separated, regardless of cause, from any nursing, or other health care related employment with a full explanation of the circumstances surrounding the termination or separation.

9. **Supervision.** Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board regarding Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration before commencing or continuing any employment as a registered nurse, or education and training that includes patient care.

Respondent shall practice only under the direct supervision of a registered nurse in good standing (no current discipline) with the Board of Registered Nursing, unless alternative methods of supervision and/or collaboration (e.g., with an advanced practice nurse or physician) are approved.

Respondent's level of supervision and/or collaboration may include, but is not limited to the following:

- (a) Maximum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is present in the patient care area or in any other work setting at all times.
- (b) Moderate The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration is in the patient care unit or in any other work setting at least half the hours Respondent works.
- (c) Minimum The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration has person-to-person communication with Respondent at least twice during each shift worked.
- (d) Home Health Care If Respondent is approved to work in the home health care setting, the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall have person-to-person communication with Respondent as required by the Board each work day. Respondent shall maintain telephone or other telecommunication contact with the individual providing supervision and/or collaboration as required by the Board during each work day. The individual providing supervision and/or collaboration shall conduct, as required by the Board, periodic, on-site visits to patients' homes visited by Respondent with or without Respondent present.
- 10. **Employment Limitations.** Respondent shall not work for a nurse's registry, in any private duty position as a registered nurse, a temporary nurse placement agency, a traveling nurse, or for an in-house nursing pool.

Respondent shall not work for a licensed home health agency as a visiting nurse unless the registered nursing supervision and other protections for home visits have been approved by the Board. Respondent shall not work in any other registered nursing occupation where home visits are required.

Respondent shall not work in any health care setting as a supervisor of registered nurses. The Board may additionally restrict Respondent from supervising licensed vocational nurses and/or unlicensed assistive personnel on a case-by-case basis.

Respondent shall not work as a faculty member in an approved school of nursing or as an instructor in a Board approved continuing education program.

Respondent shall work only on a regularly assigned, identified and predetermined worksite(s) and shall not work in a float capacity.

If Respondent is working or intends to work in excess of 40 hours per week, the

Board may request documentation to determine whether there should be restrictions on the hours of work.

11. **Complete a Nursing Course(s).** Respondent, at his own expense, shall enroll and successfully complete a course(s) relevant to the practice of registered nursing no later than six months prior to the end of his probationary term.

Respondent shall obtain prior approval from the Board before enrolling in the course(s). Respondent shall submit to the Board the original transcripts or certificates of completion for the above required course(s). The Board shall return the original documents to Respondent after photocopying them for its records.

12. **Cost Recovery.** Respondent shall pay to the Board costs associated with its investigation and enforcement pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3 in the amount of seven-thousand dollars (\$7,000.00). Respondent shall be permitted to pay these costs in a payment plan approved by the Board, with payments to be completed no later than three months prior to the end of the probation term.

If Respondent has not complied with this condition during the probationary term, and Respondent has presented sufficient documentation of his good faith efforts to comply with this condition, and if no other conditions have been violated, the Board, in its discretion, may grant an extension of Respondent's probation period up to one year without further hearing in order to comply with this condition. During the one year extension, all original conditions of probation will apply.

13. Violation of Probation. If Respondent violates the conditions of his probation, the Board after giving Respondent notice and an opportunity to be heard, may set aside the stay order and impose the stayed discipline (revocation/suspension) of Respondent's license.

If during the period of probation, an accusation or petition to revoke probation has been filed against Respondent's license or the Attorney General's Office has been requested to prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation against Respondent's license, the probationary period shall automatically be extended and shall not expire until the accusation or

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14. License Surrender. During Respondent's term of probation, if he ceases practicing due to retirement, health reasons or is otherwise unable to satisfy the conditions of probation, Respondent may surrender his license to the Board. The Board reserves the right to evaluate Respondent's request and to exercise its discretion whether to grant the request, or to take any other action deemed appropriate and reasonable under the circumstances, without further hearing. Upon formal acceptance of the tendered license and wall certificate, Respondent will no longer be subject to the conditions of probation.

Surrender of Respondent's license shall be considered a disciplinary action and shall become a part of Respondent's license history with the Board. A registered nurse whose license has been surrendered may petition the Board for reinstatement no sooner than the following minimum periods from the effective date of the disciplinary decision:

- (1) Two years for reinstatement of a license that was surrendered for any reason other than a mental or physical illness; or
  - (2) One year for a license surrendered for a mental or physical illness.
- 15. **Physical Examination.** Within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, Respondent, at his expense, shall have a licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, who is approved by the Board before the assessment is performed, submit an assessment of the Respondent's physical condition and capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. Such an assessment shall be submitted in a format acceptable to the Board. If medically determined, a recommended treatment program will be instituted and followed by the Respondent with the physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant providing written reports to the Board on forms provided by the Board.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board.

During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board is required until the Board has notified Respondent that a medical determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

Dependence. Respondent, at his expense, shall successfully complete during the probationary period or shall have successfully completed prior to commencement of probation a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program of at least six months duration. As required, reports shall be submitted by the program on forms provided by the Board. If Respondent has not completed a Board-approved treatment/rehabilitation program prior to commencement of probation, Respondent, within 45 days from the effective date of the decision, shall be enrolled in a program. If a program is not successfully completed within the first nine months of probation, the Board shall consider Respondent in violation of probation.

Based on Board recommendation, each week Respondent shall be required to attend at least one, but no more than five 12-step recovery meetings or equivalent (e.g., Narcotics Anonymous, Alcoholics Anonymous, etc.) and a nurse support group as approved and directed by the Board. If a nurse support group is not available, an additional 12-step meeting or equivalent shall be added. Respondent shall submit dated and signed documentation confirming such attendance to the Board during the entire period of probation. Respondent shall continue with the recovery plan recommended by the treatment/rehabilitation program or a licensed mental health examiner and/or other ongoing recovery groups.

Abstain from Use of Psychotropic (Mood-Altering) Drugs. Respondent shall completely abstain from the possession, injection or consumption by any route of all controlled substances and all psychotropic (mood altering) drugs, including alcohol, except when the same are ordered by a health care professional legally authorized to do so as part of documented medical treatment. Respondent shall have sent to the Board, in writing and within fourteen (14) days, by the prescribing health professional, a report identifying the medication, dosage, the date the medication was prescribed, the Respondent's prognosis, the date the medication will no longer be required, and the effect on the recovery plan, if appropriate.

Respondent shall identify for the Board a single physician, nurse practitioner or physician assistant who shall be aware of Respondent's history of substance abuse and will coordinate and monitor any prescriptions for Respondent for dangerous drugs, controlled substances or mood-altering drugs. The coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant shall report to the Board on a quarterly basis Respondent's compliance with this condition. If any substances considered addictive have been prescribed, the report shall identify a program for the time limited use of any such substances.

The Board may require the single coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant to be a specialist in addictive medicine, or to consult with a specialist in addictive medicine.

participate in a random, biological fluid testing or a drug screening program which the Board approves. The length of time and frequency will be subject to approval by the Board. Respondent is responsible for keeping the Board informed of Respondent's current telephone number at all times. Respondent shall also ensure that messages may be left at the telephone number when he is not available and ensure that reports are submitted directly by the testing agency to the Board, as directed. Any confirmed positive finding shall be reported immediately to the Board by the program and Respondent shall be considered in violation of probation.

In addition, Respondent, at any time during the period of probation, shall fully cooperate with the Board or any of its representatives, and shall, when requested, submit to such

tests and samples as the Board or its representatives may require for the detection of alcohol, narcotics, hypnotics, dangerous drugs, or other controlled substances.

If Respondent has a positive drug screen for any substance not legally authorized and not reported to the coordinating physician, nurse practitioner, or physician assistant, and the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to participate in a random, biological fluid testing or drug screening program within the specified time frame, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. After taking into account documented evidence of mitigation, if the Board files a petition to revoke probation or an accusation, the Board may suspend Respondent from practice pending the final decision on the petition to revoke probation or the accusation. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

19. **Mental Health Examination**. Respondent shall, within 45 days of the effective date of this Decision, have a mental health examination including psychological testing as appropriate to determine his capability to perform the duties of a registered nurse. The examination will be performed by a psychiatrist, psychologist or other licensed mental health practitioner approved by the Board. The examining mental health practitioner will submit a written report of that assessment and recommendations to the Board. All costs are the responsibility of Respondent. Recommendations for treatment, therapy or counseling made as a result of the mental health examination will be instituted and followed by Respondent.

If Respondent is determined to be unable to practice safely as a registered nurse, the licensed mental health care practitioner making this determination shall immediately notify the Board and Respondent by telephone, and the Board shall request that the Attorney General's office prepare an accusation or petition to revoke probation. Respondent shall immediately cease practice and may not resume practice until notified by the Board. During this period of suspension, Respondent shall not engage in any practice for which a license issued by the Board

is required, until the Board has notified Respondent that a mental health determination permits Respondent to resume practice. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period.

If Respondent fails to have the above assessment submitted to the Board within the 45-day requirement, Respondent shall immediately cease practice and shall not resume practice until notified by the Board. This period of suspension will not apply to the reduction of this probationary time period. The Board may waive or postpone this suspension only if significant, documented evidence of mitigation is provided. Such evidence must establish good faith efforts by Respondent to obtain the assessment, and a specific date for compliance must be provided. Only one such waiver or extension may be permitted.

20. Therapy or Counseling Program. Respondent, at his expense, shall participate in an on-going counseling program until such time as the Board releases him from this requirement and only upon the recommendation of the counselor. Written progress reports from the counselor will be required at various intervals.

#### **ACCEPTANCE**

I have carefully read the Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order. I understand the stipulation and the effect it will have on my Registered Nurse License. I enter into this Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order voluntarily, knowingly, and intelligently, and agree to be bound by the Decision and Order of the Board of Registered Nursing.

DATED: 1/-2-07.

ALAN WILLIAM PLYMANE
Respondent

Respondent

#### **ENDORSEMENT**

The foregoing Stipulated Settlement and Disciplinary Order is hereby respectfully

1	submitted for consideration by the Board of Registered Nursing of the Department of Consumer	
2	Affairs.	
3	DATED: Mov. 13, 2007	
4	<del></del>	EDMUND G. BROWN JR., Attorney General of the State of California
5		of the State of California
6		
7		TERRENCE M. MASON  TERRENCE M. MASON
8		Deputy Attorney General
9		Attorneys for Complainant
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13	DOJ Matter ID: LA2005601394 60230884.wpd	
14	(rev.10/07)	
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1	BILL LOCKYER, Attorney General		
	of the State of California TERRENCE M. MASON, State Bar No. 158935		
2	Deputy Attorney General		
3	California Department of Justice 300 So. Spring Street, Suite 1702		
4	Los Angeles, CA 90013 Telephone: (213) 897-6294		
5	Facsimile: (213) 897-2804		
6	Attorneys for Complainant		
7	BEFORE THE BOARD OF REGISTERED NURSING DEPARTMENT OF CONSUMER AFFAIRS		
8 (	STATE OF CALIFORNIA		
9	In the Matter of the Accusation Against:   Case No. 2007-27		
10	In the Watter of the Accusation riganist.		
11	a.k.a., ALAN W. PLYMALE		
12	2483 Falcon Drive Paso Robles, CA 93446		
13	Registered Nurse License No. 544635		
14			
15			
16	Complainant alleges:		
17	PARTIES		
18	1. Ruth Ann Terry, M.P.H., R.N. (Complainant) brings this Accusation		
19	9 solely in her official capacity as the Executive Officer of the Board of Registered Nursing		
20	0 (Board), Department of Consumer Affairs.		
21	On or about June 30, 1998, the Board issued Registered Nurse License No.		
22	2 544635 to Alan William Plymale, also known as, Alan W. Plymale (Respondent). The		
23	Registered Nurse License will expire on November 30, 2007, unless renewed.		
24	4 JURISDICTION		
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26	Brofoggions Code unless otherwise		
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#### STATUTORY PROVISIONS

- 4. Section 2750 of the Business and Professions Code (Code) provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may discipline any licensee, including a licensee holding a temporary or an inactive license, for any reason provided in Article 3 (commencing with section 2750) of the Nursing Practice Act.
- 5. Section 2764 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the expiration of a license shall not deprive the Board of jurisdiction to proceed with a disciplinary proceeding against the licensee or to render a decision imposing discipline on the license. Under section 2811(b) of the Code, the Board may renew an expired license at any time within eight years after the expiration.
  - 6. Section 2761 of the Code states:

"The board may take disciplinary action against a certified or licensed nurse or deny an application for a certificate or license for any of the following:

- "(a) Unprofessional conduct, which includes, but is not limited to, the following:
- "(1) Incompetence, or gross negligence in carrying out usual certified or licensed nursing functions.

. . . .

- "(f) Conviction of a felony or of any offense substantially related to the qualifications, functions, and duties of a registered nurse, in which event the record of the conviction shall be conclusive evidence thereof."
  - 7. Section 2762 of the Code states:

"In addition to other acts constituting unprofessional conduct within the meaning of this chapter [the Nursing Practice Act], it is unprofessional conduct for a person licensed under this chapter to do any of the following:

. . . .

"(b) Use any controlled substance as defined in Division 10 (commencing with Section 11000) of the Health and Safety Code, or any dangerous drug or dangerous device as defined in Section 4022, or alcoholic beverages, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or

injurious to himself or herself, any other person, or the public or to the extent that such use impairs his or her ability to conduct with safety to the public the practice authorized by his or her license.

"(c) Be convicted of a criminal offense involving the prescription, consumption, or self-administration of any of the substances described in subdivisions (a) and (b) of this section, or the possession of, or falsification of a record pertaining to, the substances described in subdivision (a) of this section, in which event the record of the conviction is conclusive evidence thereof."

#### 8. Section 490 of the Code states:

"A board may suspend or revoke a license on the ground that the licensee has been convicted of a crime, if the crime is substantially related to the qualifications, functions, or duties of the business or profession for which the license was issued. A conviction within the meaning of this section means a plea or verdict of guilty or a conviction following a plea of nolo contendere. Any action which a board is permitted to take following the establishment of a conviction may be taken when the time for appeal has elapsed, or the judgment of conviction has been affirmed on appeal, or when an order granting probation is made suspending the imposition of sentence, irrespective of a subsequent order under the provisions of Section 1203.4 of the Penal Code."

## 9. California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444 states:

"A conviction or act shall be considered to be substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse if to a substantial degree it evidences the present or potential unfitness of a registered nurse to practice in a manner consistent with the public health, safety, or welfare."

10. Section 125.3 of the Code provides, in pertinent part, that the Board may request the administrative law judge to direct a licentiate found to have committed a violation or violations of the licensing act to pay a sum not to exceed the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of the case.

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## FIRST CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Conviction of Substantially Related Crimes)

- 11. Respondent is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (f) and 490 of the Code, in conjunction with California Code of Regulations, title 16, section 1444, in that Respondent has been convicted of multiple crimes substantially related to the qualifications, functions or duties of a registered nurse, as follows:
- a. On or about October 20, 2005, Respondent was convicted by the court on his plea of nolo contendere for violating Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (driving under the influence of alcohol or drugs with prior conviction), in the Superior Court of California, County of San Luis Obispo, Case No. M375254, entitled *People v. Alan William Plymale*.
- b. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about July 3, 2005, Respondent willfully and unlawfully, while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage and a drug, and under their combined influence, drove a motor vehicle with his minor child present.
- c. On or about May 18, 2005, Respondent was convicted by the court on a plea of nolo contendere for violating Vehicle Code section 23103, subdivision (a), a misdemeanor (reckless driving on the highway), in the Superior Court of California, County of San Luis Obispo, Case No. M367041, entitled *People v. Alan William Plymale*.
- d. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about December 14, 2004, Respondent willfully and unlawfully, while under the influence of an alcoholic beverage and a drug, and under their combined influence, drove a motor vehicle. Respondent was involved in a one vehicle traffic collision resulting in his vehicle rolling over. Respondent admitted to the officer who responded to the accident that he had consumed Peppermint Schnapps and the medications Antabuse (disulfiram, an anti-alcoholism perscription medicine dangerous drug), Ativan (a Schedule IV controlled substance), and Zoloft (sertraline hydrochloride, an antidepressant prescription medicine dangerous drug) that morning.

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- e. On or about April 21, 2004, Respondent was convicted by the court on his plea of nolo contendere for violating Vehicle Code section 23152, subdivision (b), a misdemeanor (driving while having a 0.08% or higher blood alcohol), in the Superior Court of California, County of San Luis Obispo, Paso Robles Branch, Case No. M349752, entitled *People v. Alan William Plymale*.
- f. The circumstances underlying the conviction are that on or about November 2, 2003, Respondent willfully and unlawfully, while having 0.08 percent or more, by weight, of alcohol in his blood, drove a motor vehicle. Respondent was involved in a one vehicle traffic collision resulting in his vehicle rolling over. Respondent was taken to a hospital for treatment for possible injuries where he became uncooperative and attempted to escape the hospital following his arrest.

## SECOND CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

### (Dangerous Use of Alcohol)

12. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (a) of the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined in section 2762, subdivision (b) of the Code, in that on or about November 2, 2003, December 14, 2004, and July 3, 2005, Respondent operated a vehicle while under the influence of alcoholic beverages and/or drugs, to an extent or in a manner dangerous or injurious to himself, and the public, as set forth in paragraph 11 above.

## THIRD CAUSE FOR DISCIPLINE

## (Conviction Involving the Consumption of Alcohol)

13. Respondent's license is subject to disciplinary action under section 2761, subdivision (a) of the Code, on the grounds of unprofessional conduct, as defined in section 2762, subdivision (c) of the Code, in that on or about April 21, 2004, May 18, 2005, and October 20, 2005, Respondent was convicted of a crimes involving driving a motor vehicle while under the influence of alcohol and/or drugs, as set forth above in paragraph 11.

#### **PRAYER**

WHEREFORE, Complainant requests that a hearing be held on the matters herein alleged, and that following the hearing, the Board issue a decision:

- 1. Revoking or suspending Registered Nurse License No. 544635, issued to Alan William Plymale.
- 2. Ordering Alan William Plymale to pay the Board the reasonable costs of the investigation and enforcement of this case, pursuant to Business and Professions Code section 125.3;
  - 3. Taking such other and further action as deemed necessary and proper.

DATED: 4125106

RUTH ANN TERRY, M.P.H., R.N

Executive Officer

Board of Registered Nursing

State of California

Complainant

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